

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

6 August 1954

Present

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Members:

[REDACTED], CIA, Chairman  
CIA  
Stanley Wilcox, State  
John Lacey, State  
H. J. Gordon, Jr., Army (for Richard Bauer)  
Maj. H. G. Neumann, Air Force

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[REDACTED] NSA  
[REDACTED] NSA

Consultants:

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[REDACTED] CIA  
[REDACTED] CIA  
[REDACTED] CIA

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[REDACTED] CIA  
[REDACTED] CIA

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[REDACTED] CIA  
Charleen Dornheim, State

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1. Minutes of the thirty-first meeting were approved.
2. [REDACTED] requested that FDD consider Yugoslavia a part of the Bloc for purposes of reporting scientific and technical information. The Chairman stated that items on Yugoslavia would be included in the FDD monthly science news report.
3. The Chairman asked for comments on the proposed FDD program for the exploitation of East European publications.

Mr. Wilcox stated that the program is acceptable to State Department but requested that FDD incorporate reporting on laws and decrees on a current basis.

Messrs. Gordon, G-2 and Neumann, A-2 concurred with the program as presented.

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[REDACTED] stated that he felt the proposed program was a positive step forward, but emphasized that with the type of periodic reports proposed it was even more imperative that items should appear on one side of the page only, in order to facilitate clipping and filing. The Chairman replied that this matter had again been referred to Reproduction and he was informed that they were operating under a budget ruling on the conservation of paper. Representatives of G-2 and State Department commented that their departments would require three copies of every publication to permit clipping and filing,

and that in the long run money might be saved by printing on one side of the page. The Chairman indicated he would take action to bring this matter to the attention of the Budget Office.

25X1A

NSA: [REDACTED] said the program was acceptable to NSA if the category "communications" in the economic report also included telecommunications. The Chairman stated that such was the case.

The Chairman then said that since all members of the Subcommittee concurred with the proposed program for Eastern Europe, steps would be taken immediately to implement the program, and that the effectiveness of the program would be reviewed at the end of six months.

4. The Chairman distributed copies of a "Proposed FDD Program for Exploitation of Yugoslav Publications," for consideration at the next meeting.

5. Exploitation of South-East Asia publications.

Mr. Lacey suggested that the point by point consideration of the agenda be waived and that each of the representatives give a general presentation of his needs and interests on Southeast Asia.

With regard to State facilities, Mr. Lacey said that the Department's Translation Center could not service the oriental languages of Southeast Asia. Press surveys are made by the embassies in Indonesia and Thailand. These are disseminated. There is also a survey made in Saigon which is not disseminated. Requirements cannot be served on any of these.

He stated that since the specific needs for Southeast Asia could not be presented on an area-wide basis he was submitting for inclusion in the minutes a statement of interest and need on the part of State Department -- country by country and would limit his presentation here to a general statement for the area. He stated that there was really no such entity as Southeast Asia and that the area analysts in the State Department undertook their studies of Southeast Asia on a country by country basis; consequently the needs of State Department could best be answered by information on the individual countries and that the reporting of information should be generally, in accord with this consideration. For the information required, Mr. Lacey stipulated that prime consideration from State's viewpoint should be political as against economic and sociological and the periodicity should be more frequent for the political information if possible. He indicated that State would like political information weekly, but he had no objections to consideration of a longer period of time since FDD's service to State was more useful for studies than for current use. He also stated that State Department was pleased with the cordial relationships existing between the Southeast Asia personnel of State and the Southeast Asia personnel of FDD and the specific interest that had been accorded to the needs of State by FDD up to this time. He also hoped that with the establishment of a regular program in FDD that sufficient manpower would be reserved for the servicing of specific requirements of State Department. He expressed a need for a statement on the source

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materials used by FDD which would include the competence of the sources, the types of information that the sources carry, the affiliation and any other pertinent data which would enable the consumer to evaluate information derived from the sources. He stated that State Department was satisfied with the quality of the information furnished on Southeast Asia and that there was a general confidence in qualifications of the FDD personnel. He also stated that FDD service to State Department was most beneficial for background material and basic reports against current reporting. In some of the Southeast Asia countries he hoped there could be an increase of quantity of information; this is more true since there is a growing interest in Southeast Asia on the part of State Department and its needs will increase by geometrical proportions. This must be connected with the fact that until recently the work on Southeast Asia has been done mainly by the colonizing countries - England, France and the Netherlands in particular, and consequently there are relatively few trained personnel on the area, especially personnel trained in the languages of the area.

As a supplement to the specific country requirements which are included in the minutes, Mr. Lacey stated that for the next six months general priorities for all countries in Southeast Asia would be on political activities and personalities and internal organization. Specifically, there will be priority interest in any regulation of the activities of the Lao Dong and other parties of Indochina and a similar interest in Burma and Thailand; the police system, subversive activities, manpower, labor and labor legislation of Burma and Indochina; cultural and sociological activities including public opinion attitudes in Indochina.

The Chairman asked what form and periodicity was desired for reporting.

Mr. Lacey said State prefers the [REDACTED] on a country by country basis rather than a functional basis. As matters of exceptions, he stated that State desires biographic information on 4x6 cards and, whereas the country by country basis is preferable, Communist movements and Overseas Chinese activities could be satisfactorily reported on a regional basis.

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The Army representative, Mr. Gordon, stated that they would be satisfied with regional reports if internally they were broken down country by country. The Army prefers collations and compilations over abstracts, and newspaper and periodical coverage as against monographs. The Army expressed satisfaction with the FDD area reports on the Celebes and Java, specifically Summary 140 and Special Summary No. 8 covering those areas. They have no facilities for language work on Southeast Asia. Army finds little use for the world-wide selected briefs.

The Air Force representative stated that in regard to Southeast Asia Air Force needs were similar to those expressed by Army. The stress of Air Force is on target information and they prefer their information reported in the form of abstracts. The Air representative stated that the Air Force has no present facilities to cover Southeast Asia. He said that the 6004th AISS in Tokyo could handle Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Tagalog language, but at present was concerned exclusively with information on China.

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25X1A9a [redacted] CIA, stated that he would like to make four points of CIA interest:

1. The need for information required by the Geographic Division of ORR.
2. Arms traffic in Southeast Asia
3. CIA prefers summaries rather than collations
4. Room should be left for specific requirements.

25X1A9a He also stated that CIA would like an annotated list of sources used by FDD.

[redacted] stated that DD/P, CIA, prefers the type of reports which they are presently receiving from FDD especially on Indonesia and the Overseas Chinese. He stated that although he did not have time to make a complete statement on requirements the exploitation requirements for DD/P were periodically sent to FDD anyway. Based on a survey he conducted, he said, in general DD/P preferred the summary type report on a country basis.

25X1A9a OCI - [redacted] stated that they would not make a statement of need, but hoped that in drawing up the program that sufficient manpower would be allowed to continue service on the spot-type requirement which OCI serves on FDD.

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ORR - [redacted] stated that the organization for operations on Southeast Asia within the Far East Branch of the Analysis Division of ORR had just begun, and the general needs of ORR would be for information on production, resources, and transportation on a monthly and semi-annual basis.

25X1A9a FDD - [redacted] stated that the manpower available for exploitation work on Southeast Asia totaled eight bodies with one possible addition. For the past year FDD reporting which has been mainly in the [redacted] and FDD Summary form was concentrated on the following area reports:

25X1A

Indonesia - six types of area reports, produced roughly quarterly, one each on Java, Sumatra, Borneo, Celebes, Moluccas, and the lesser Sundas. For the Philippines, a bi-weekly survey of the Bagong Buhay; for Burma reports of a non-periodic nature mainly on government and the administration of Burma for instance administrative areas, police organizations, etc; for Thailand a report, roughly monthly on internal defense and security; for Indochina non-periodic reports mainly on the economic and sociological affairs of Indochina; little emphasis was given to political reports on Indochina because of the censorship. For Overseas Chinese a series of reports on an individual country basis covering the political, economic and sociologic organizations of the Overseas Chinese.

For the area of Southeast Asia, the following languages are handled in FDD -- Burmese, Thai, Vietnamese, French, Indonesian, Dutch, Tagalog (other Philippine dialects can be handled) and Chinese and Japanese.

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25X6 6. The agenda for the next meeting will be (a) comments on proposed FDD program on Yugoslavia, (b) exploitation of Near East publications [REDACTED] 25X6

7. The meeting adjourned at 1540 hours, and the next meeting will be held on Friday, 20 August 1954 at the Riverside Stadium, 1400 hours.

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Attachments: A and B

- A. FDD Exploitation of Southeast Asia Language Materials
- B. Near East Publications Currently Exploited by FDD